

THE PROGRESSIVE FARMER.

THE INDUSTRIAL AND EDUCATIONAL INTERESTS OF OUR PEOPLE PARAMOUNT TO ALL OTHER CONSIDERATIONS OF STATE POLICY.

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AGRICULTURE

HARRY FARMER'S TALKS.

XCV.

Editor of The Progressive Farmer:

The election is now over, and you know who your legislators are. Any measure that you wish to have acted on can be laid before your lawmakers. By giving notice now, your member will have time to get the matter in shape. It is just as essential to keep the "track hot" in order to get what you want from a legislator as it is from any other servant of the public.

PROVIDE SHELTER FOR STOCK

As the weather is growing cooler and the pastures are being destroyed by frost, give your stock a little feed so that they will keep in "good flesh" through the winter. Fat stock of any kind can stand more cold than poor ones. Cold rains hurt, and the best plan is to provide good shelters for them. It is surprising to see how soon hogs and cattle will learn where a shelter is. We have often forecasted the weather by noticing the movements of stock in the early morning.

GROWING TOMATOES FROM CUTTINGS

Our tomatoes made from cuttings are very nice. It is just as easy to make them that way as it is to raise sweet potatoes. From some cause, tomatoes do not blight when made from cuttings like those planted in the spring from seed. We think that it would pay to raise them in the South this way for canning. Land from which an early crop of truck, like Irish potatoes, onions or any other crop where the land has to be made rich, would be nice for this purpose. July is the best time to set. The earlier in season the better, as the fruit will have time to ripen. The only trouble is dry weather and worms. The latter can be picked off or killed by spraying like you do for potato bugs.

SODA AS A PREVENTIVE OF WEEVILS

We tried bicarbonate or common cooking soda on our corn for weevils. We had very few, compared with some years. We think it one of the best remedies that can be used by the average farmer. As you heap up the corn, sprinkle a little over the pile; about 2½ pounds to the hundred bushels is about right. It can be bought at any store for five cents a pound, and by the keg of 100 pounds at about three cents a pound.

We think it is worms that do most of the damage, and the soda seems to prevent them more than the weevil.

KEEPING COLLARDS

In the southern and eastern part of the State, where so many collards are grown, it would be well to turn them down on the side, as those lying down are not killed by severe cold. About the last of this month will be the best time to do this.

HARRY FARMER.

Columbus Co., N. C.

Farmers' Institutes to Be Held.

It is announced that Farmers' Institutes will be held at the following times and places: Tarboro, November 18th; Wilson, November 19th; Mt. Olive, November 20th; Smithfield, November 21st; Fayetteville, November 22d. These Institutes will be conducted by Commissioner of Agriculture Patterson, State Chemist B. W. Kilgore, Professor Massey, Dr. Butler and others.

Good Breeds of Hogs.

Editor of The Progressive Farmer:

I desire to purchase a pair of pigs for the purpose of raising hogs for sale. I want a breed that will fatten at any age and good porkers. What kind would you advise me to get? Answer through The Progressive Farmer.

C. J. BRASWELL.

Union Co., N. C.

(Answer by Dr. Charles W. Burkett, N. C. A. and M. College.)

Your correspondent will find either the Poland-China or the Berkshire satisfactory breeds for the middle South.

Both are early maturing breeds, and both put on gains economically and well. Even at low prices these two breeds will convert raw material into finished products cheaply, and perhaps with more profit than any other class of livestock. The Black Essex is also a good breed, but is not quite so large a hog as the two mentioned.

The main thing is to select some breed—it doesn't matter which—and then by care and attention improve the breed you have started.

Newton Enterprise: Wagons from Watauga and Caldwell this week have brought some very fine mountain apples. We learn that the apple crop on this side of the Ridge is a pretty good one, but there is not more than a third of a crop on the other side.

A TALK TO THE FARM BOY AND HIS FATHER.

Dr. Burkett Makes a Strong Appeal for Agricultural Education.

Editor of The Progressive Farmer:

This article is to be a talk to the farm boy.

It is quite appropriate for us to have a little talk with the young farmer at this time, and we would like for his father to chat with us also. We want to go over a little new ground with you. I might say in the beginning that we want to talk about agricultural education; it is a subject very dear to me, and one I believe in fully. I wish you would become interested in this matter, too, and help us in bringing this great subject before the farm boys of North Carolina. It means so much to the boys; it means so much to our State. Every young man trained in the best practices and filled with love for a better agriculture will do much for the wealth and prosperity of the Commonwealth.

Agricultural education is more than education, and all that it means; it is training; it makes better cattle and more profitable cattle; it makes more profitable farming; it makes farm life sweeter and brighter and worth the living. Agricultural education brings hope and inspiration; it means better farm homes and better cultivated farms. It means that drudgery and ignorance and superstition shall be divorced forever from farm life, and in its place will be brought sunshine, attractive homes, a good livelihood, and good citizenship to the State.

HOW AGRICULTURAL EDUCATION PAYS

Agricultural education means financial improvements. Several of the last winter's-course students in agriculture at the A. and M. College had been receiving from \$12 to \$15 per month for long hours at hard work. They were trained for ten weeks, and at once were offered from \$25 to \$40 per month for their services. Here is an instance where education pays: The course cost the boys \$30 for board, room and books. With this investment they doubled their income. With this investment they secured a training worth \$2,000. Does training pay?

There is a constant demand for young men trained in agriculture. During one week the A. and M. College received eleven calls for young

men. But why discuss this phase? We all know a trained citizenship is the best heritage our State can give her posterity. The point is to act. Boys, train yourself. Fathers, encourage your boys and give them an education in agriculture, if it is but ten weeks.

THE WINTER COURSES IN AGRICULTURE AND DAIRYING

The winter courses of our own A. and M. College are soon to begin their second session. There ought to be 500 farmers, old and young, enrolled this winter from January 1st to March 10th. Will you be one? Will you counsel with your brothers and father and see if one in your family can attend? If you do not have thirty dollars now, you can earn it between this day and January 1st. That is all it costs, and you will receive instruction and practical training in dairying, stock-raising, feeds and feeding animals, breeds and herding animals, stock judging, soil study, farm crops, veterinary medicine, entomology and plant life.

What an opportunity! Young farmers, it is yours. I beg of you, don't let it pass by.

Agriculture is both an art and a science, and so great is its importance, it offers a wide field for the bright and ambitious boys of our State. The world is filled with men in the so-called professional fields, but there are few well-trained farmers. If I were a young farmer I would train myself in my work. I would get ready at once for the winter courses, and take off ten weeks. Think what it would mean to you, young farmers!

Your life-work is to be farming. Will anything pay you better than a careful study of the problems you have to deal with? Can't you afford to take off ten weeks out of the fifty years before you as a preparation for that long life-work?

I want you to decide for agricultural training. Do it now—this minute. Tell your friends to come with you. Let's make this session a record-breaker.

Full particulars of the courses and any information will be cheerfully given by addressing

CHARLES WM. BURKETT,
Professor of Agriculture, A. and M. College.

Raleigh, N. C.

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